

DARE-
DEVIL

15¢

57

OCT



HERE COMES...

DAREDEVIL

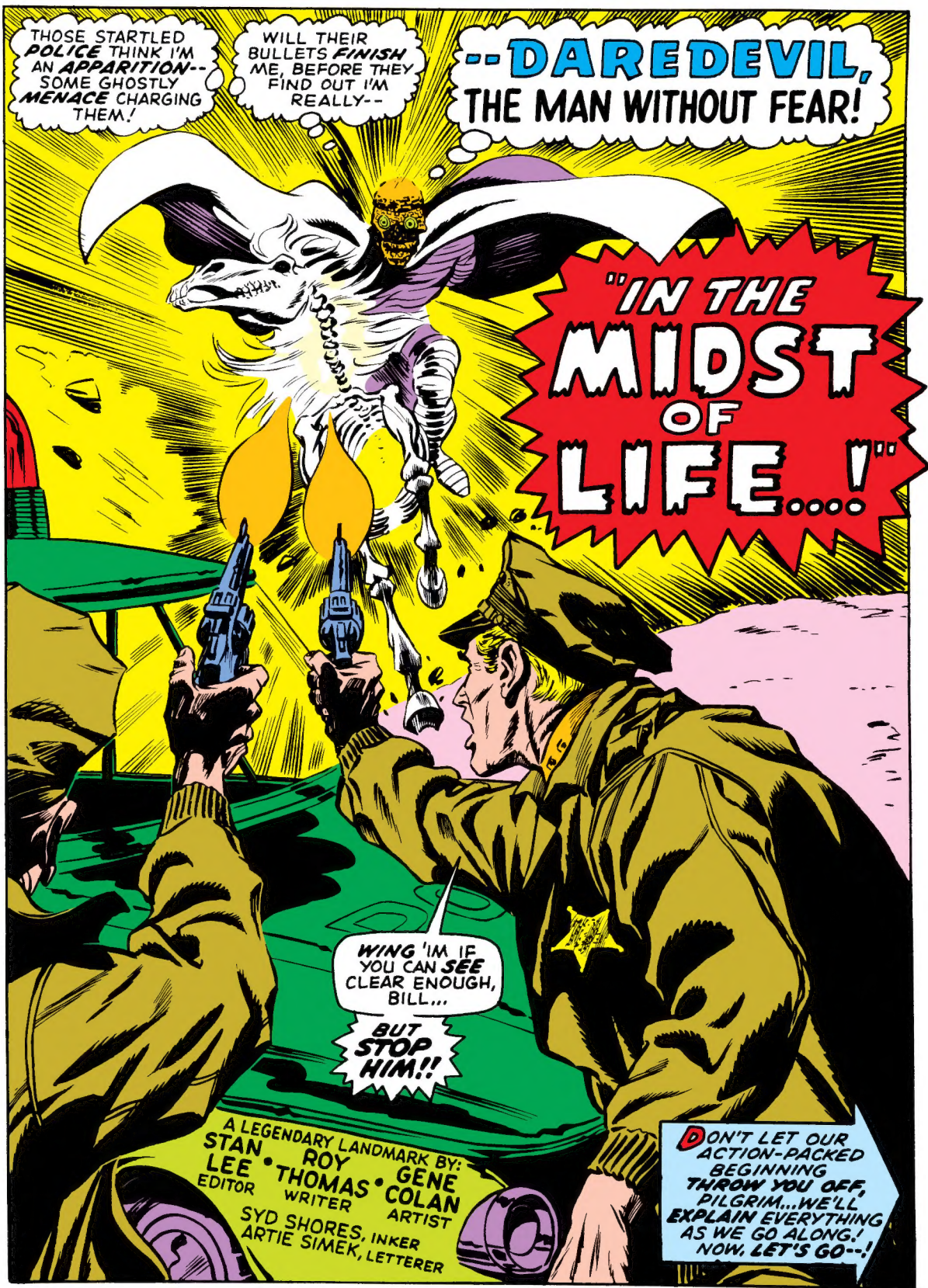
I'VE
UNMASKED
YOU AT LAST!

BUT...IT
CAN'T BE!
IT CAN'T!

DAREDEVIL
IS...
**MATT
MURDOCK!**

**MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP**

"IN
THE
MIDST
OF
LIFE..."



A LEGENDARY LANDMARK BY:
STAN LEE • ROY THOMAS • GENE COLAN
EDITOR • WRITER • ARTIST
SYD SHORES, INKER
ARTIE SIMEK, LETTERER

DON'T LET OUR
ACTION-PACKED
BEGINNING
THROW YOU OFF,
PILGRIM...WE'LL
EXPLAIN EVERYTHING
AS WE GO ALONG!
NOW, LET'S GO--!



IF ONLY MY SKELETAL MOUNT WOULD SHY-- OR EVEN STUMBLE!

MAYBE THEN I COULD SNAP THE BONDS THAT HOLD ME TO ITS INVISIBLE SADDLE!



BUT, IT JUST KEEPS RACING FORWARD--

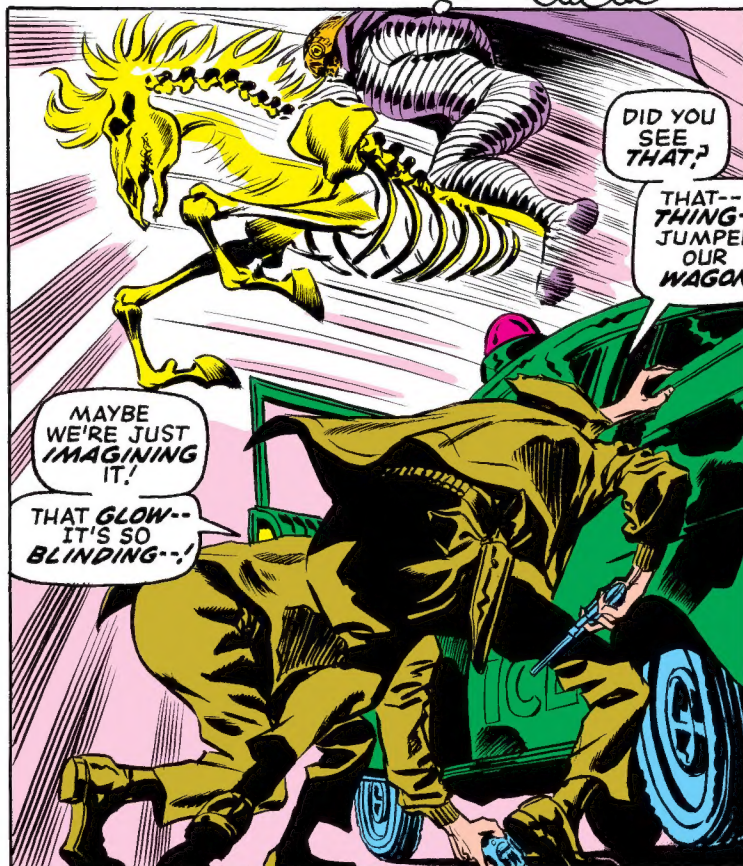
--IN THE DIRECTION THAT DEATH'S-HEAD SPURRED IT!

DEATH'S-HEAD...THE MURDEROUS VILLAIN WHO DRESSED ME IN HIS COSTUME!

WAIT! WE'RE HEADING STRAIGHT FOR--THE POLICE CAR!

GOT TO DO SOME MAKESHIFT SPURRING OF MY OWN, OR--

MADE IT-- BY THE SKIN OF MY MUFFLED TEETH!



DID YOU SEE THAT?

THAT--THING--JUMPED OUR WAGON!

MAYBE WE'RE JUST IMAGINING IT!

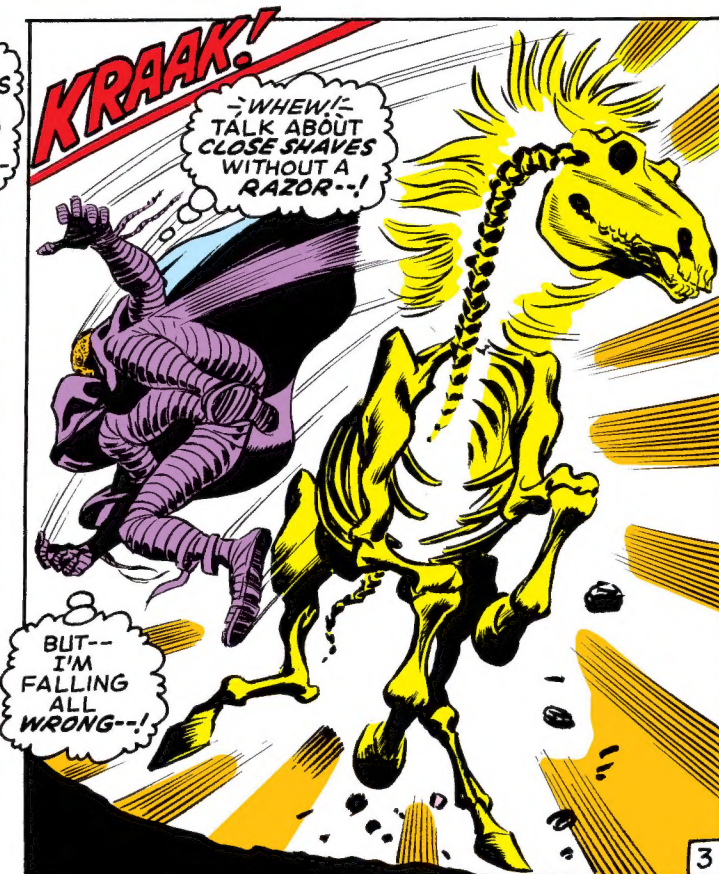
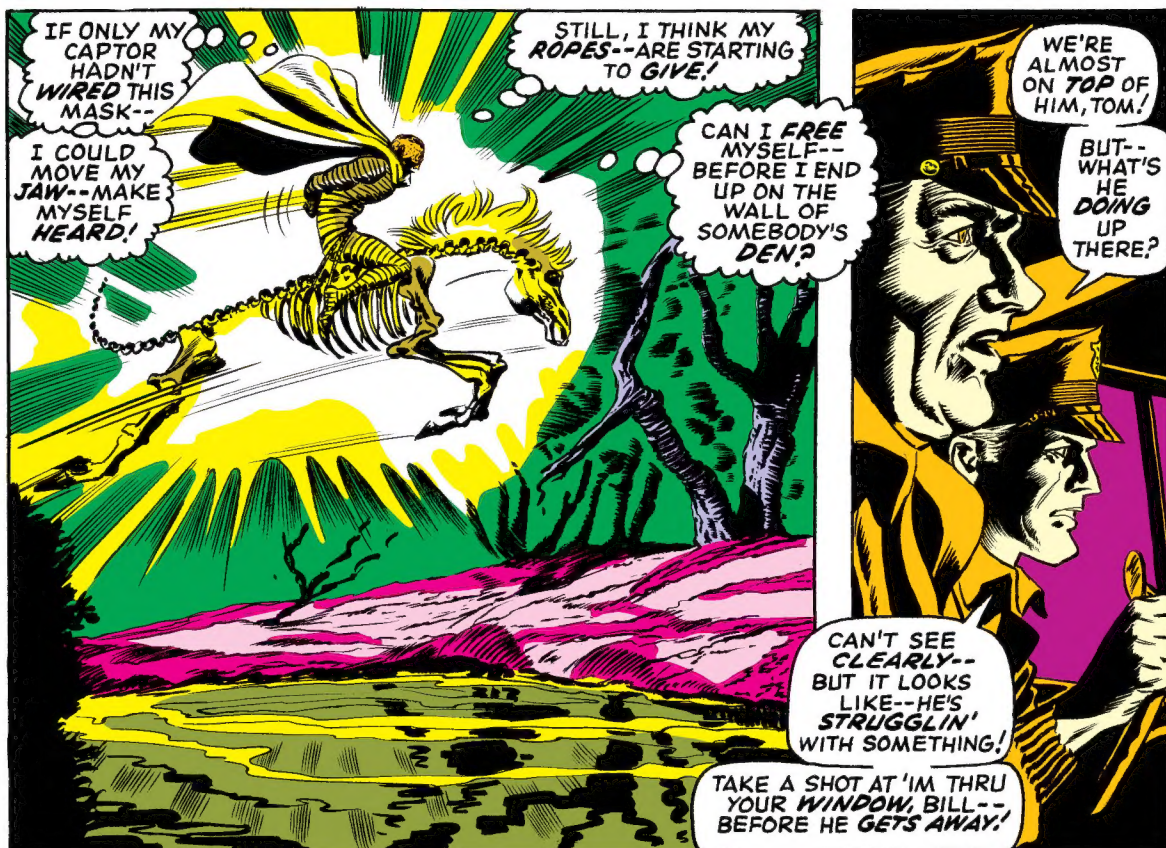
THAT GLOW-- IT'S SO BLINDING--!

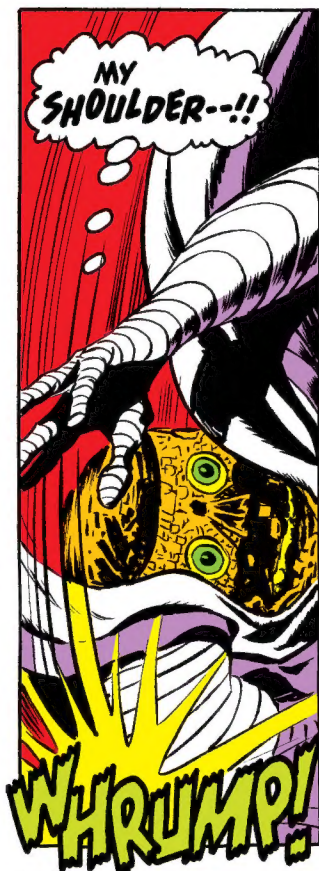


SO THAT'S WHY THEIR SHOTS ALL WENT WILD!

IT'S THE BRIGHT AURA WE GIVE OFF!

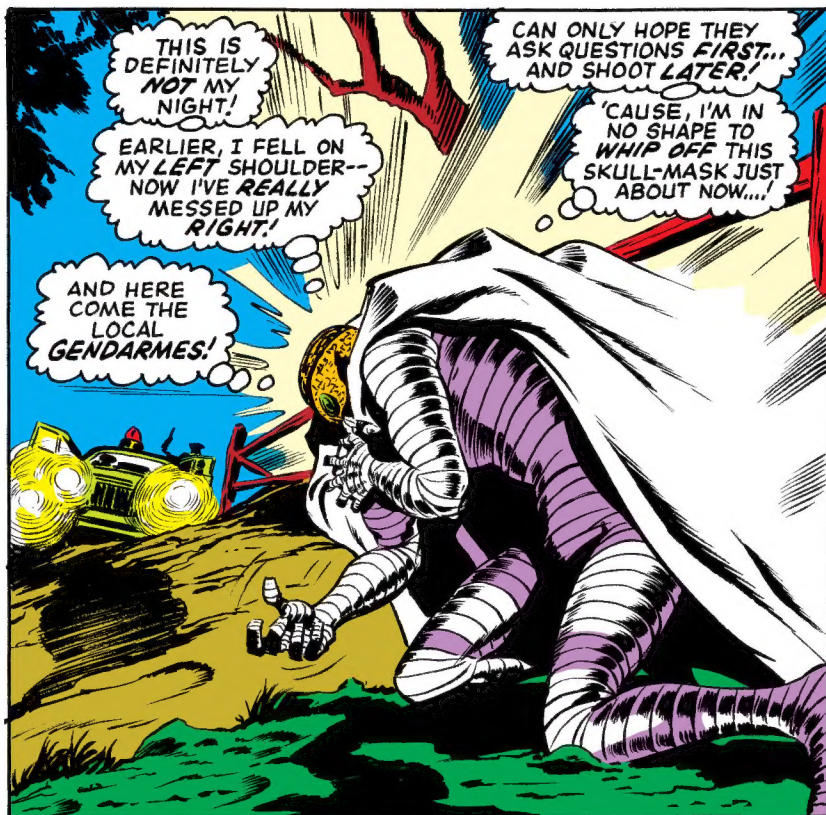
HOPE I LIVE TO FIND OUT WHAT CAUSES IT...





MY
SHOULDER--!!

WHRUMP!



THIS IS
DEFINITELY
NOT MY
NIGHT!

EARLIER, I FELL ON
MY LEFT SHOULDER--
NOW I'VE REALLY
MESSED UP MY
RIGHT!

AND HERE
COME THE
LOCAL
GENDARMES!

CAN ONLY HOPE THEY
ASK QUESTIONS FIRST...
AND SHOOT LATER!

'CAUSE, I'M IN
NO SHAPE TO
WHIP OFF THIS
SKULL-MASK JUST
ABOUT NOW...



OKAY, MISTER--
UP WITH 'EM!

WAIT A MINNIT!
LOOKS LIKE HE'S
HURT, TOM!

I THINK
HE'S TRYIN'
TO TELL
US...TO
TAKE OFF
THAT
MASK!



--WHICH IS
EXACTLY WHAT
WE'D DO
ANYHOW!

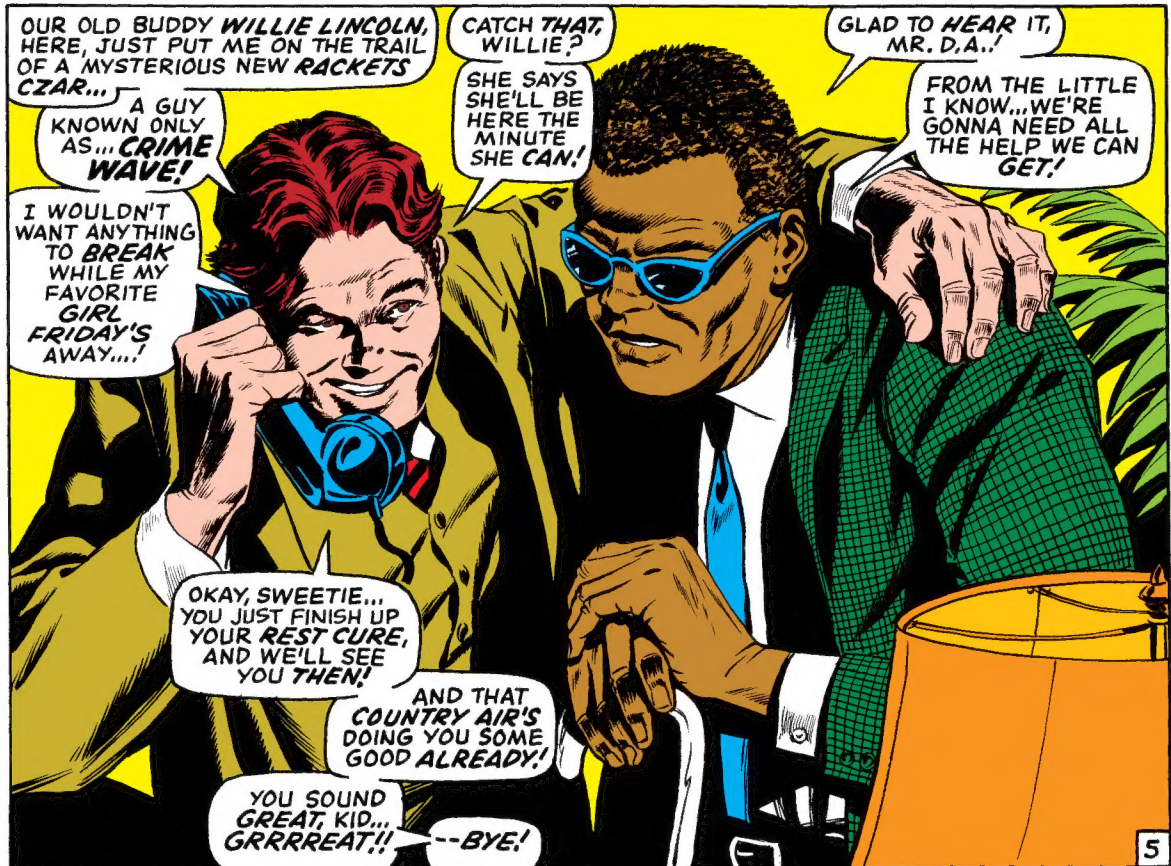
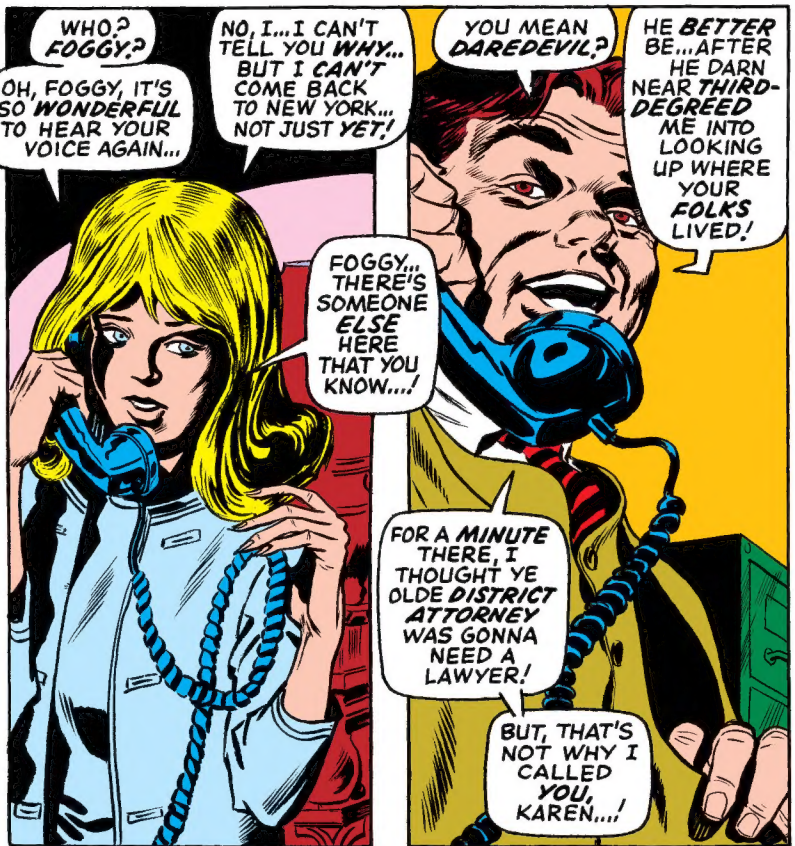
OKAY, MR. GHOST RIDER,
LET'S JUST SEE WHO--

BILL--LOOK--
IT'S THAT GUY
THEY CALL--
DAREDEVIL!

BUT, WHAT'S
HE HE DOIN'
WAY UP HERE
IN VERMONT??

WOULD YOU
BELIEVE...
GOING
COURTIN'?

NOW, OFFICER,
IF YOU COULD
GIVE ME A
LIFT BACK TO
THE PAGE
PLACE...?





GOOD GIRL, MISS PAGE!

IT'S BEST THAT AS FEW PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON HERE!

ARE YOU PRETENDING THAT **WE** KNOW WHAT'S "GOING ON", DAREDEVIL...?

...THAT YOU KNOW WHY THE MADMAN WHO TRIED TO KILL YOU...

WHAT MY DAUGHTER SAYS IS **TRUE**, DAREDEVIL...!



...WORE A MASK **IDENTICAL** TO AN ANCIENT **AZTEC SKULL** IN THE **BRITISH MUSEUM**...?

...A SKULL THAT USED TO **HAUNT** MY CHILDHOOD DREAMS?



AS A CHILD, SHE HAD A RECURRING **NIGHTMARE**...OF JUST SUCH A **CREATURE**...ON A **SKELETON HORSE**!

MANY IS THE NIGHT WE HAD TO COMFORT HER, HER FATHER AND I!

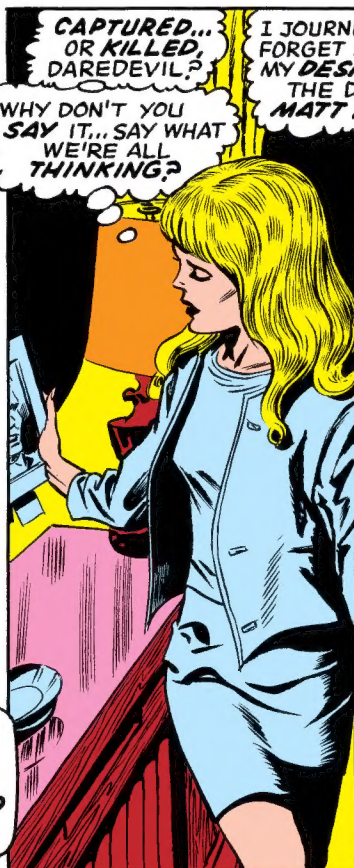
HER FATHER...IF ONLY HE WERE HERE NOW...!

WE'LL FIND HIM, MRS. PAGE!

AND, THAT WAS NO **GHOST-HORSE** I WAS RIDING...

...BUT A **REAL** STALLION, TREATED SO THAT ITS FLESH WAS **TRANSPARENT**, AND ONLY THE **BONES** COULD BE SEEN!

FIND IT, AND WE'LL FIND THE MAN WHO **CAPTURED** KAREN'S FATHER!



CAPTURED... OR **KILLED**, DAREDEVIL?

WHY DON'T YOU SAY IT... SAY WHAT WE'RE ALL THINKING?

I JOURNEYED HOME TO FORGET MY **SORROW**... MY **DESPAIR** OVER THE DEATH OF... **MATT MURDOCK**!

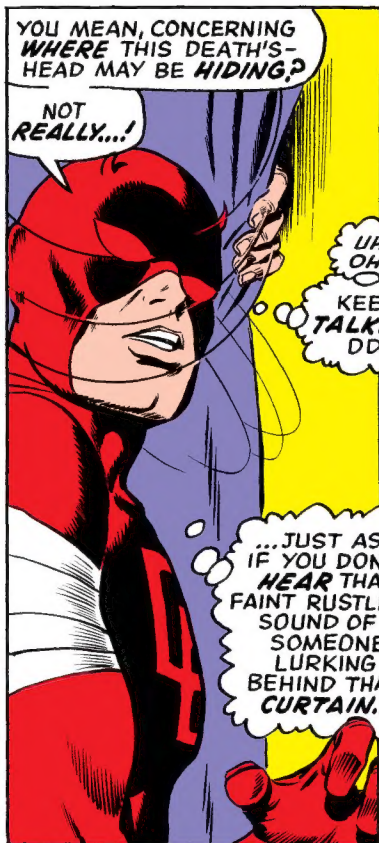
AND NOW, I MAY HAVE LOST...THE ONLY **OTHER** MAN WHO HAD A PLACE IN MY HEART!

OH, DAD...DAD... IF ONLY YOU HADN'T DEVELOPED THAT **COBALT BOMB**...

...UNLOCKED **SECRETS** THAT MEN WOULD **BARTER** THEIR **SOULS** TO LEARN...!



HAVE YOU... ANY **CLUES**, DAREDEVIL?



YOU MEAN, CONCERNING **WHERE** THIS DEATH'S-HEAD MAY BE **HIDING?**

NOT **REALLY...**!

UH OH!

KEEP **TALKING,** DD...

...JUST AS IF YOU DON'T **HEAR** THAT FAINT RUSTLING SOUND OF SOMEONE LURKING BEHIND THAT **CURTAIN...**!



I SUSPECT IT MAY BE **SOMEWHERE** NEAR...



...THAT COVERED **BRIDGE** WHERE HE FIRST THREATENED YOU--!



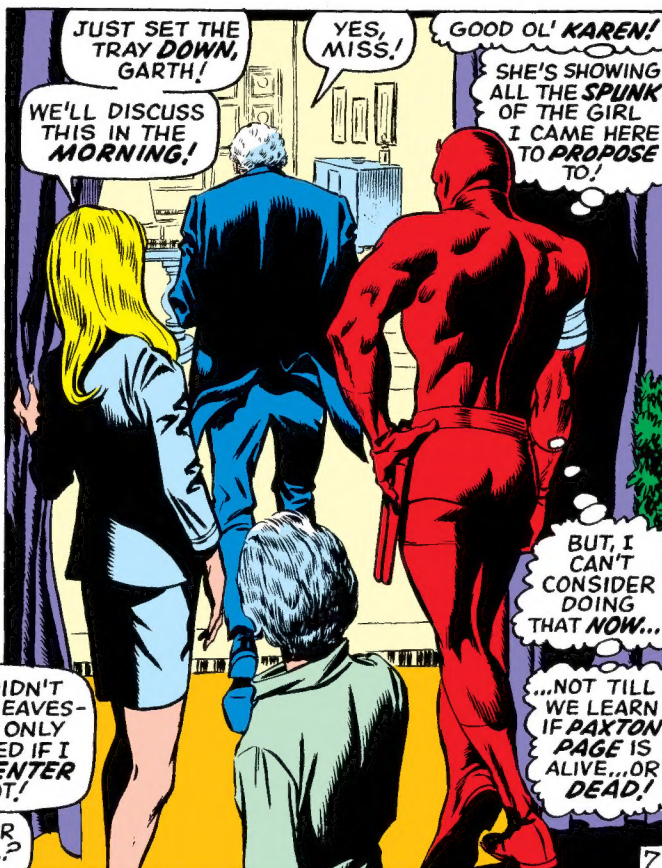
AND THEN AGAIN...IT MAY **NOT!**

SOMETHING I CAN **DO** FOR YOU, JEEVES?

THE... THE NAME IS **GARTH,** SIR!

AND...I DIDN'T **MEAN** TO EAVES-DROP...I ONLY WONDERED IF I SHOULD **ENTER** OR NOT!

COFFEE...OR TEA, SIR...?



JUST SET THE TRAY **DOWN,** GARTH!

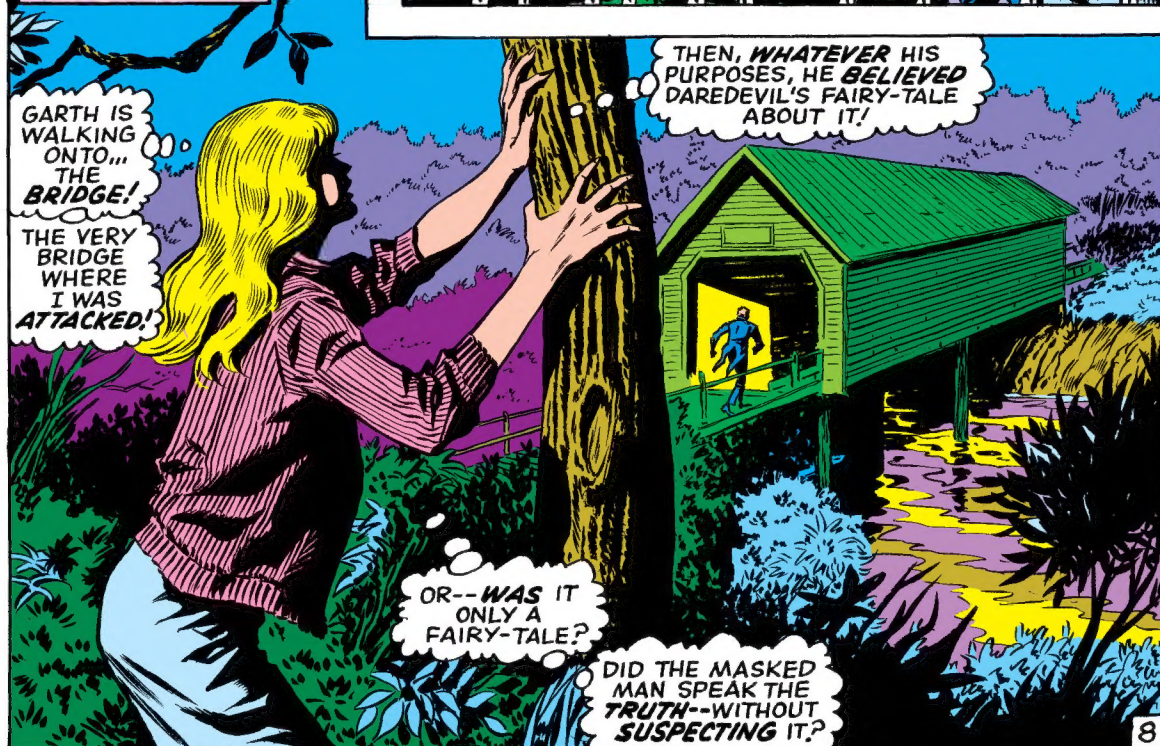
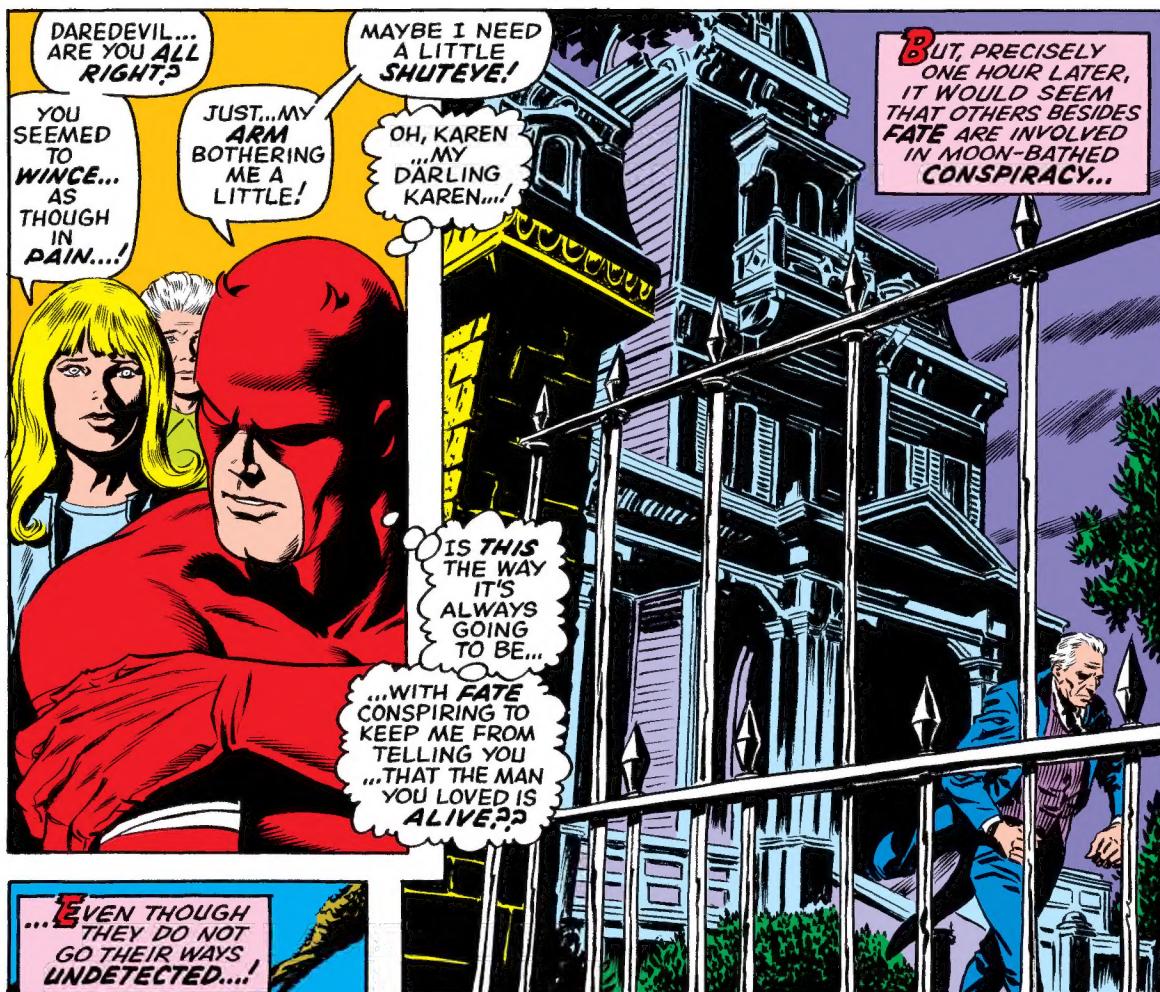
WE'LL DISCUSS THIS IN THE **MORNING!**

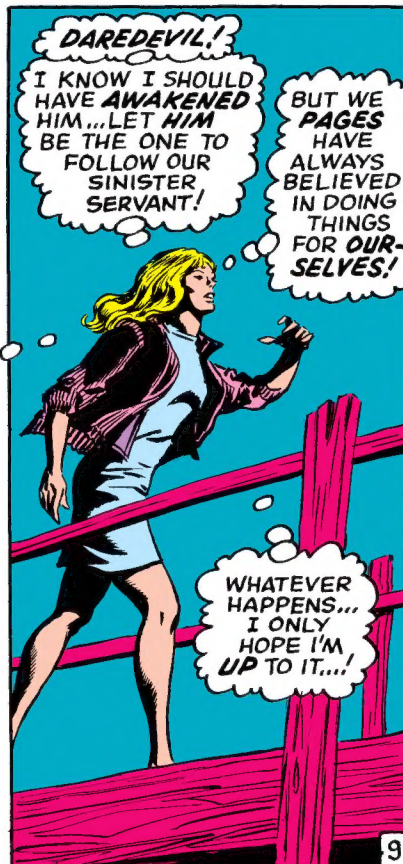
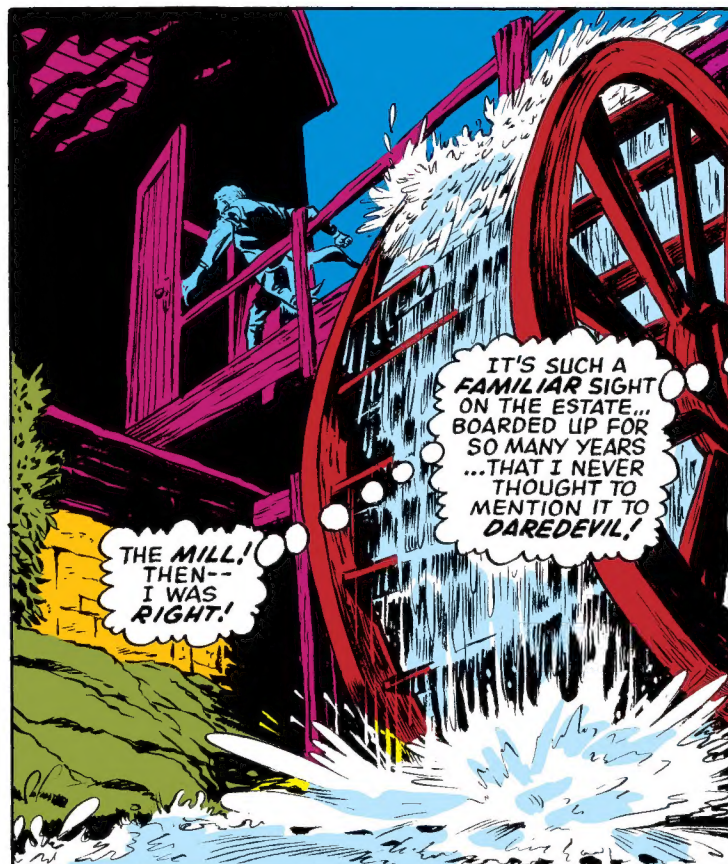
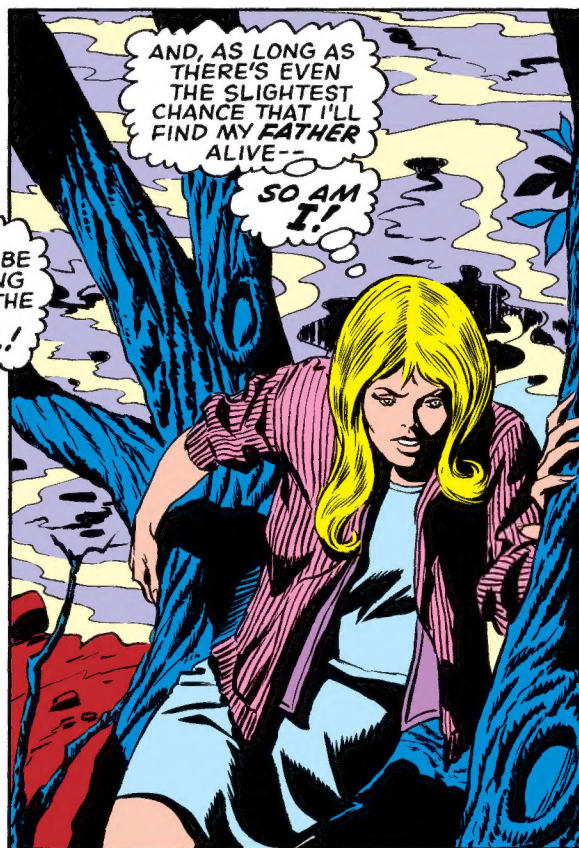
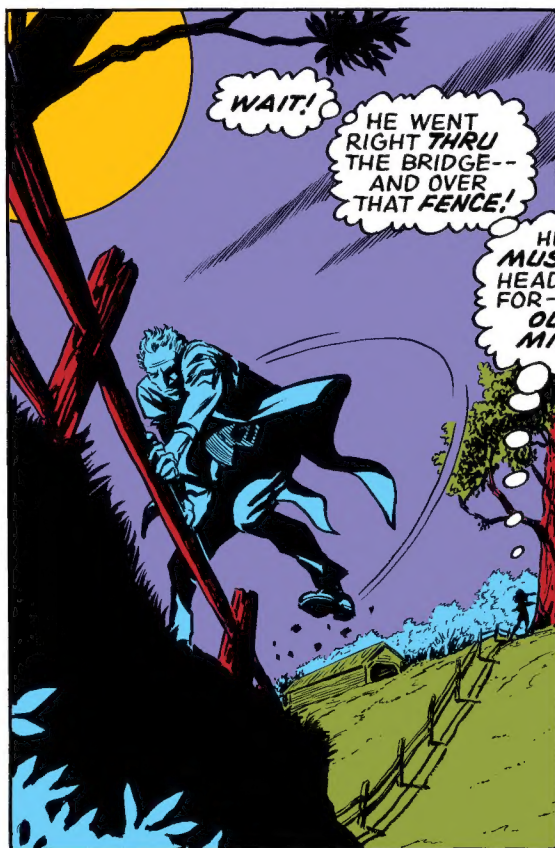
YES, MISS!

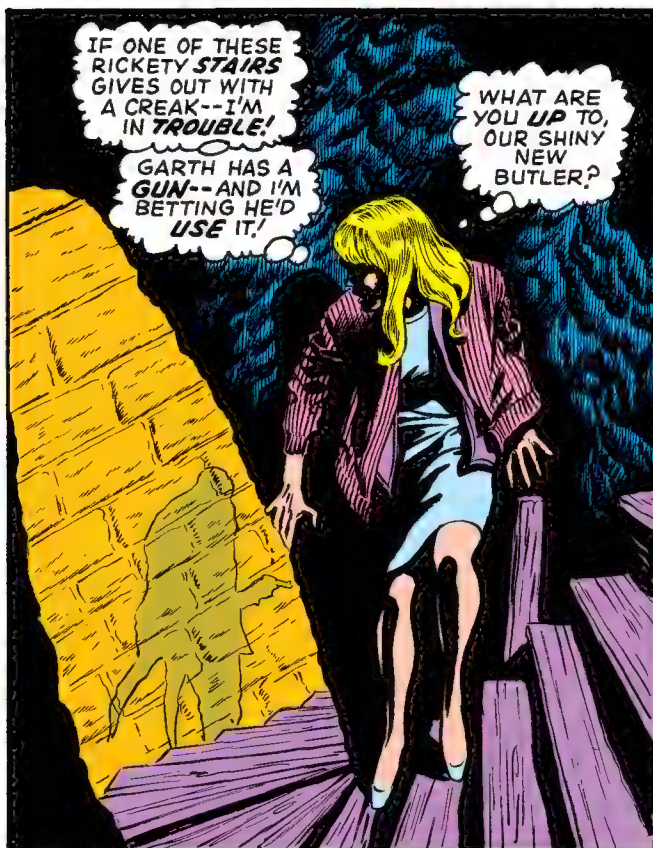
GOOD OL' **KAREN!** SHE'S SHOWING ALL THE **SPUNK** OF THE GIRL I CAME HERE TO **PROPOSE** TO!

BUT, I CAN'T CONSIDER DOING THAT **NOW...**

...NOT TILL WE LEARN IF **PAXTON PAGE** IS ALIVE...OR **DEAD!**







IF ONE OF THESE RICKETY STAIRS GIVES OUT WITH A CREAK--I'M IN TROUBLE!

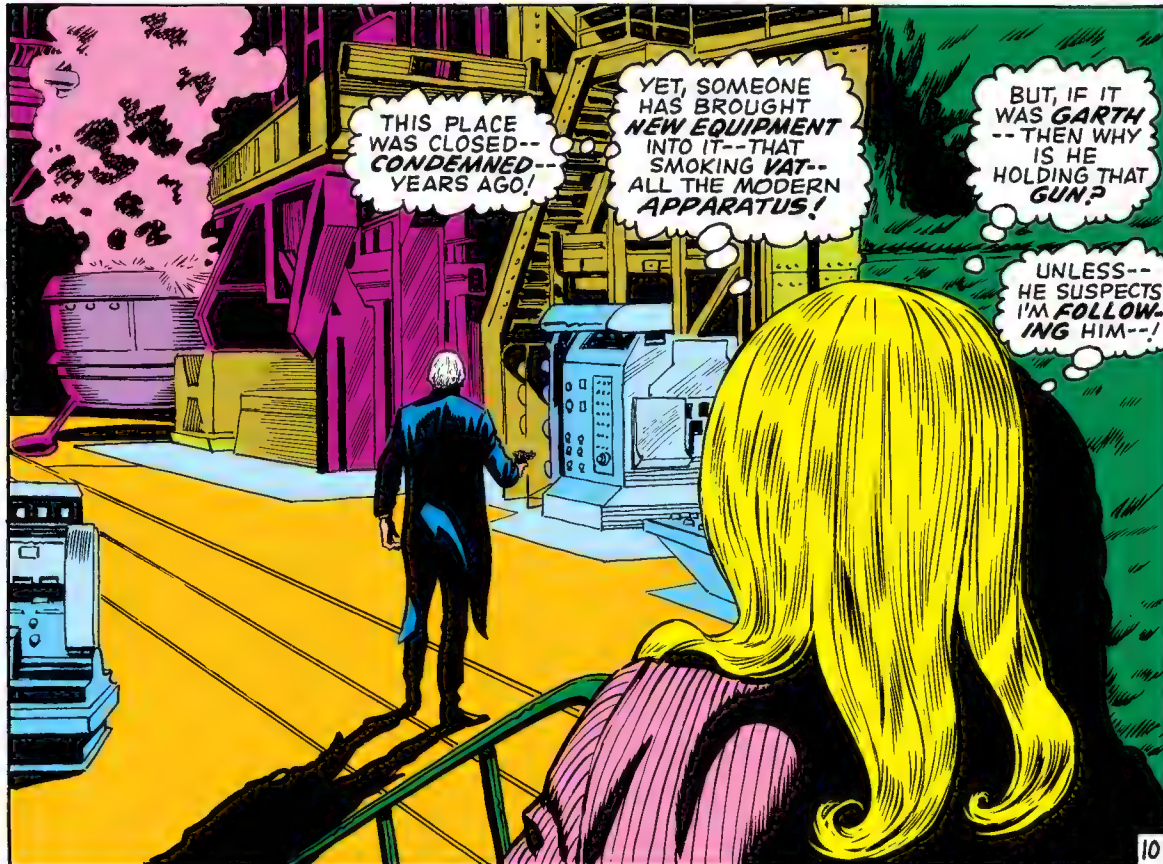
GARTH HAS A GUN--AND I'M BETTING HE'D USE IT!

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO, OUR SHINY NEW BUTLER?



HE'S STOPPING JUST AHEAD! BUT WHAT--?

OH NO-- IT'S NOT POSSIBLE--

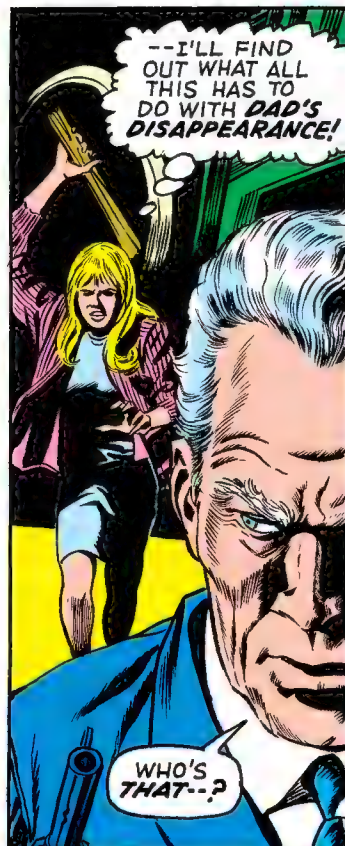


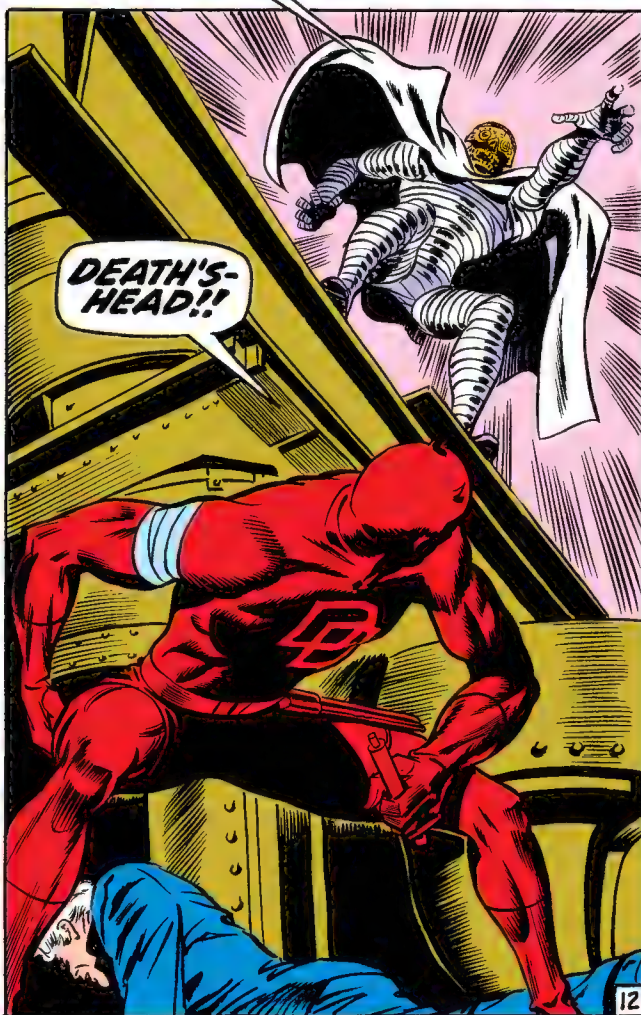
THIS PLACE WAS CLOSED-- CONDEMNED-- YEARS AGO!

YET, SOMEONE HAS BROUGHT NEW EQUIPMENT INTO IT--THAT SMOKING VAT-- ALL THE MODERN APPARATUS!

BUT, IF IT WAS GARTH -- THEN WHY IS HE HOLDING THAT GUN?

UNLESS-- HE SUSPECTS I'M FOLLOWING HIM--!





WELL, MASKED MAN?

ASK ME FOR
THE SIMPLE,
SAFE-
SOUNDING
ANSWERS
YOU CRAVE!

THEY ARE
THE **LAST**
YOU SHALL
HEAR--THIS
SIDE OF
THE GRAVE!

SUPPOSE WE START
WITH--WHERE'S YOUR
HORSE, AMIGO?

A
SURPRISING
QUESTION...
BUT AN
OBSVIOUS
ONE!

HE SEEMS
TO HAVE
DIED...

...AN
UNPLEASANT
SIDE EFFECT
OF THE SERUM
WHICH
RENDERED
HIS FLESH
TRANSPARENT!

BUT, I HAVE NO **NEED**
OF HIM TO DEAL WITH
MY **ENEMIES**--OF WHOM
I SENSE THAT **YOU** ARE
ONE!

THAT
FIREBALL'S
GETTING
LARGER...
EVER
LARGER!

EVEN WITH MY BUM
SHOULDER, I COULD
DODGE IT--BUT NOT
KAREN!

AND, IF I
MAKE A **GRAB**
FOR HER,
WE'LL **BOTH**
BE SITTING
DUCKS!

HE--HE'S
GOING TO
THROW THAT
FIREBALL!

LOOK OUT,
DD!

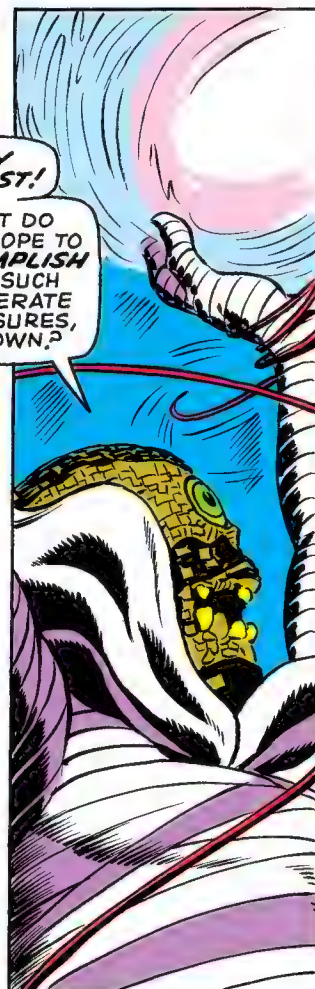
THIS BLAZING
BLUE **FIREBALL**
WILL END YOUR
PETTY
INQUISITIVENESS
--**FOREVER!**



SO FAR, LADY, HE'S BEEN THROWING NOTHING BUT A LOT OF **BULL--**



--AND I INTEND TO SEE THAT IT **STAYS** THAT WAY!



MY WRIST!

WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO **ACCOMPLISH** BY SUCH DESPERATE MEASURES, CLOWN?



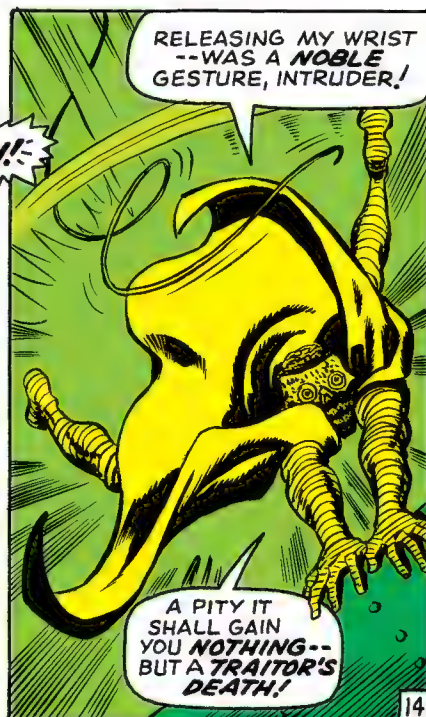
WHY, JUST TO BRING YOU **DOWN TO EARTH** A BIT, TOOTH-SOME--

--SOMETHING A FAST **YANK** OUGHT TO TAKE CARE OF!

UH OH! MY BLASTED SHOULDER KEPT ME FROM PULLING **HARD ENOUGH!**

GOT TO **UNCOIL** HIS WRIST--OR I'LL PULL HIM INTO THAT SEETHING **VAT!**

UNNNHH!



RELEASING MY WRIST --WAS A **NOBLE** GESTURE, INTRUDER!

A PITY IT SHALL GAIN YOU **NOTHING--** BUT A **TRAITOR'S DEATH!**



"A TRAITOR'S DEATH"?

NOW YOU'RE STARTING TO INTEREST ME, CHUCKLES!

THINK I'LL JUST DO THE TARZAN BIT--



--AND WE'LL CONTINUE OUR LITTLE TÊTE-A-TÊTE!

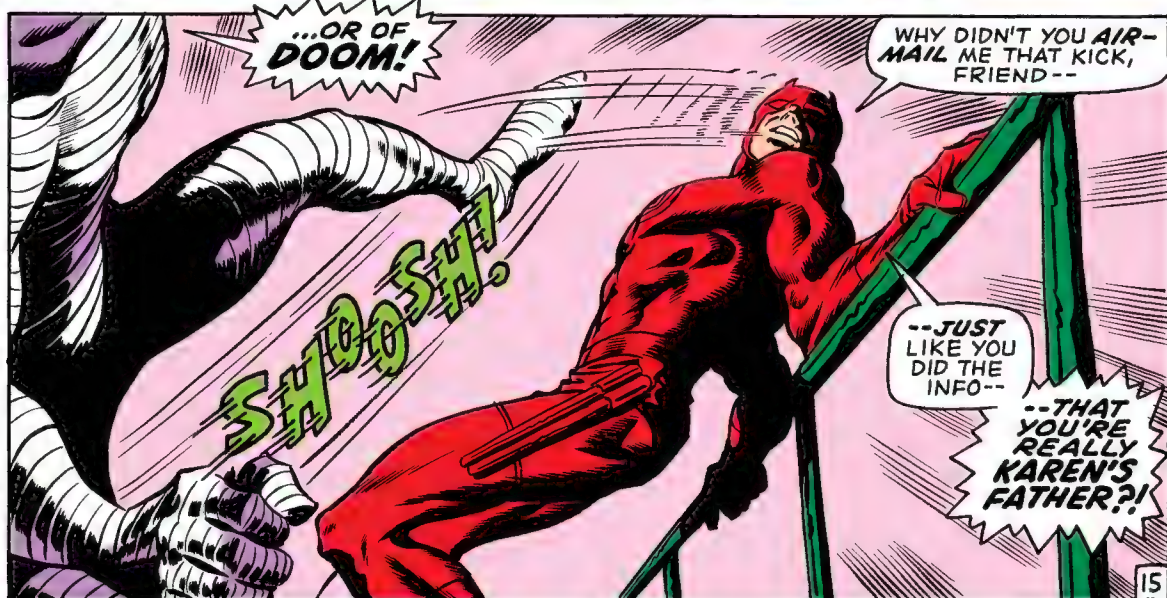
THUP!

YES... BY ALL MEANS...



BUT, ONE DOES NOT TALK TO A LIVING DREAM!

ONE LISTENS ...FOR PORTENTS OF GOOD FORTUNE...



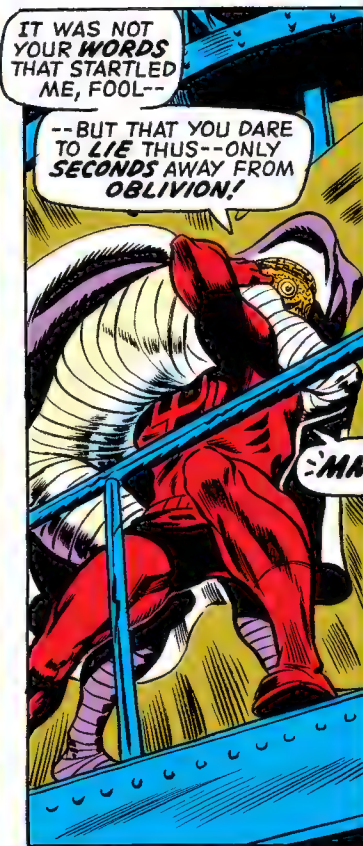
...OR OF DOOM!

SHOO SH!

WHY DIDN'T YOU AIR-MAIL ME THAT KICK, FRIEND--

--JUST LIKE YOU DID THE INFO--

--THAT YOU'RE REALLY KAREN'S FATHER?!





BUT, I
CAN'T
LET UP
NOW!

IF WHAT I
SUSPECT IS
TRUE, I'VE GOT
TO KEEP
**HAMMERING
AWAY...**

YOU'RE **PAXTON
PAGE**, I TELL
YOU--INVENTOR
OF THE **COBALT
BOMB!**

TEAR OFF THAT
GROTESQUE
**MASK--AND
TRY TO
REMEMBER--!**

HAD TO PUSH
MY **OPPONENT**
BACK--SO **HE**
WOULDN'T
FALL, AS
WELL!

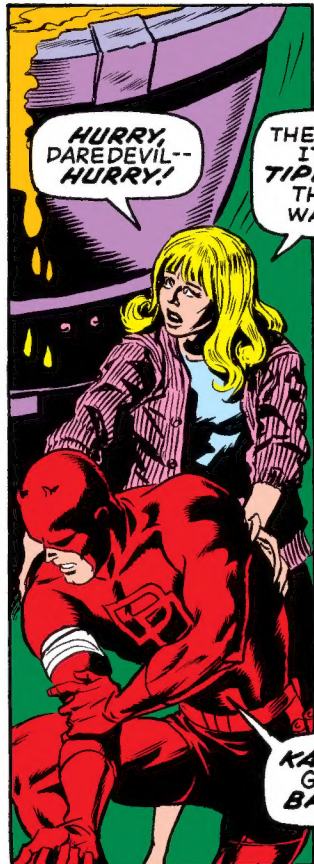
ONLY ENOUGH
STRENGTH
LEFT--TO
BARELY
**MISS THE
VAT--!**



THERE **IS**
NO **PAXTON
PAGE--NOT
ANY MORE!**

**I KILLED
HIM!**

--AS TONS OF
MOLTEN COBALT
NOW SHALL KILL--
YOU!!



**HURRY,
DAREDEVIL--
HURRY!**

THE **VAT--**
IT'S
**TIPPING
THIS
WAY--!**

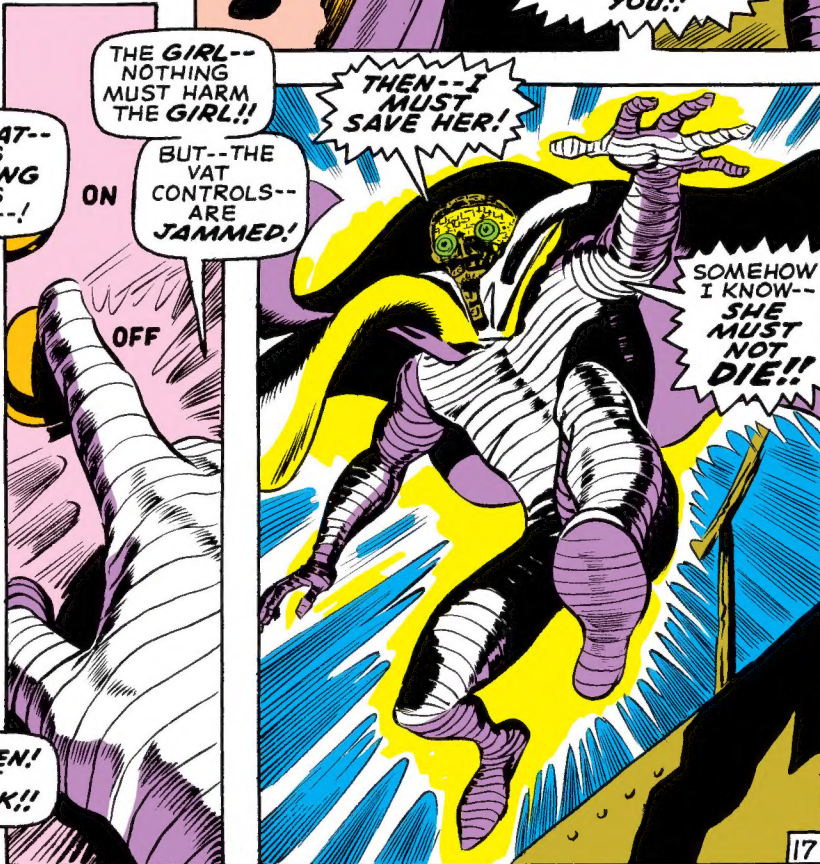
THE **GIRL--**
NOTHING
MUST HARM
THE **GIRL!!**

BUT--THE
VAT
CONTROLS--
ARE
JAMMED!

ON

OFF

**KAREN!
GET
BACK!!**



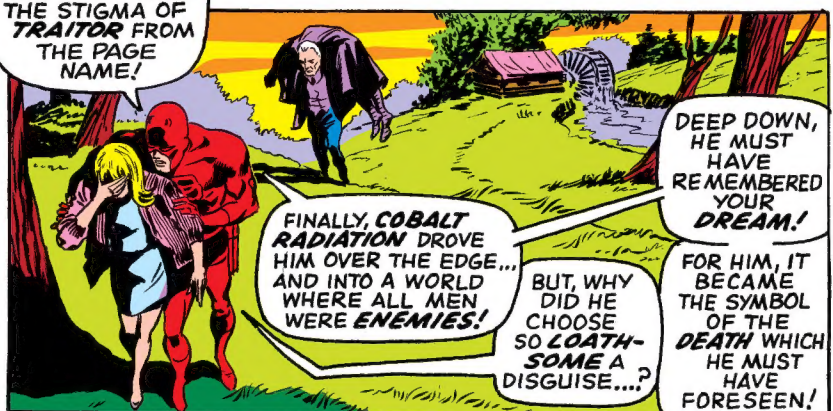
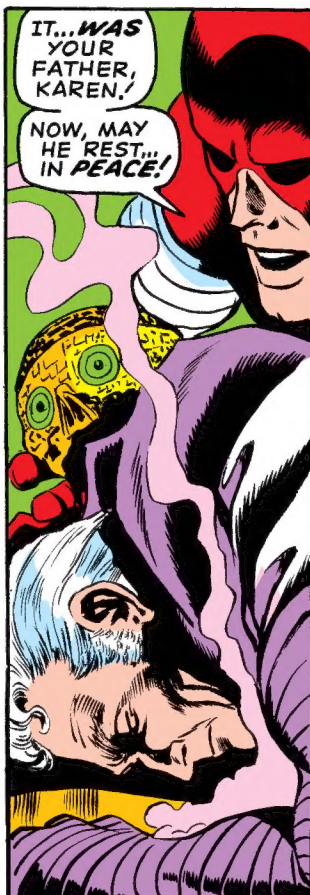
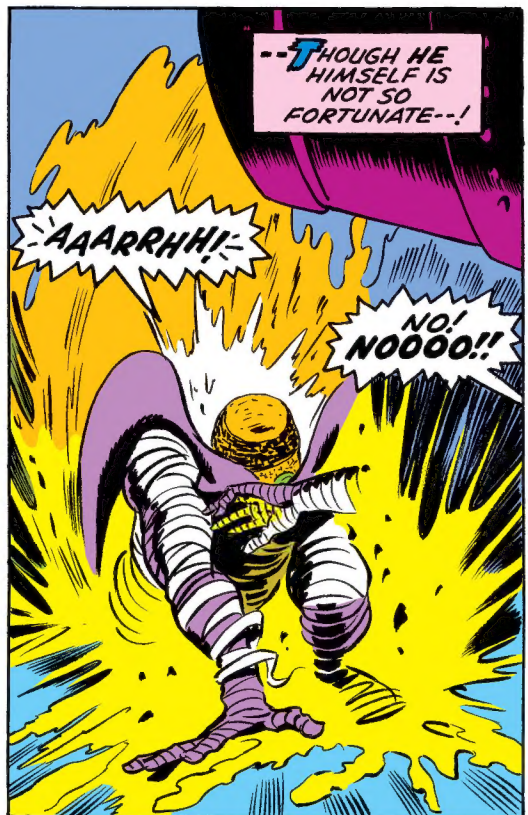
**THEN--I
MUST
SAVE HER!**

SOMEHOW
I KNOW--
**SHE
MUST
NOT
DIE!!**



THEN, IN THE HARSH, DEEP GLARE OF THE DECREPIT MILL, A PHANTOM FORM HURTTLES FROM ABOVE --HIS HEADLONG PLUNGE KNOCKING TWO OTHERS OUT OF HARM'S WAY--

...HE DROVE HIMSELF **TOO HARD**, KAREN, TRYING TO ERASE THE STIGMA OF TRAITOR FROM THE PAGE NAME!

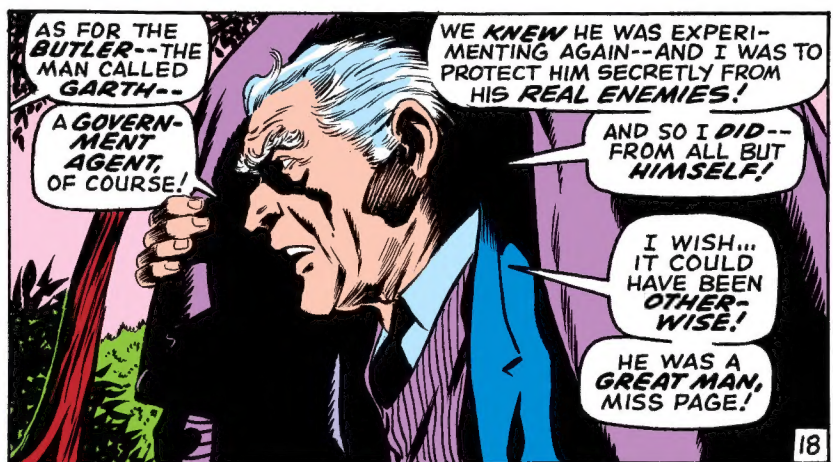


FINALLY, **COBALT RADIATION** DROVE HIM OVER THE EDGE... AND INTO A WORLD WHERE ALL MEN WERE **ENEMIES!**

BUT, WHY DID HE CHOOSE SO **LOATH-SOME** A DISGUISE...?

DEEP DOWN, HE MUST HAVE REMEMBERED YOUR **DREAM!**

FOR HIM, IT BECAME THE SYMBOL OF THE **DEATH** WHICH HE MUST HAVE FORESEEN!



AS FOR THE **BUTLER**--THE MAN CALLED **GARTH**--

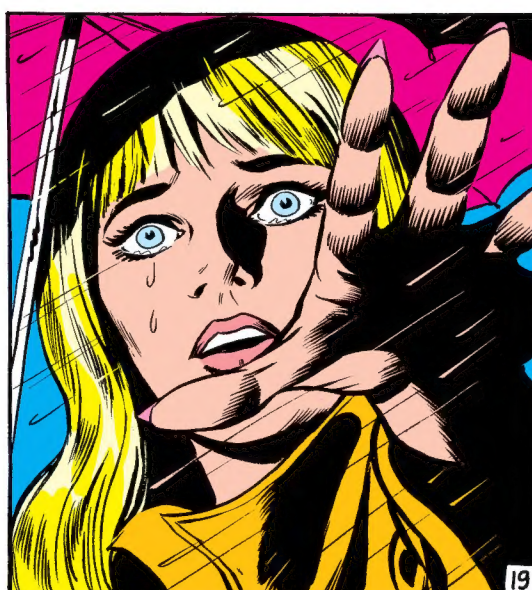
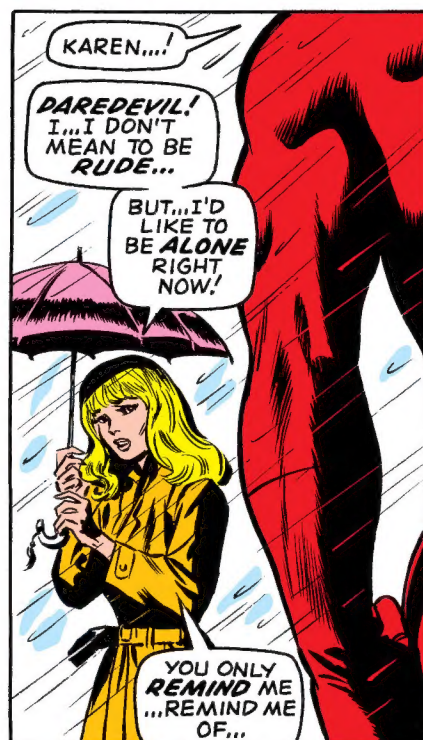
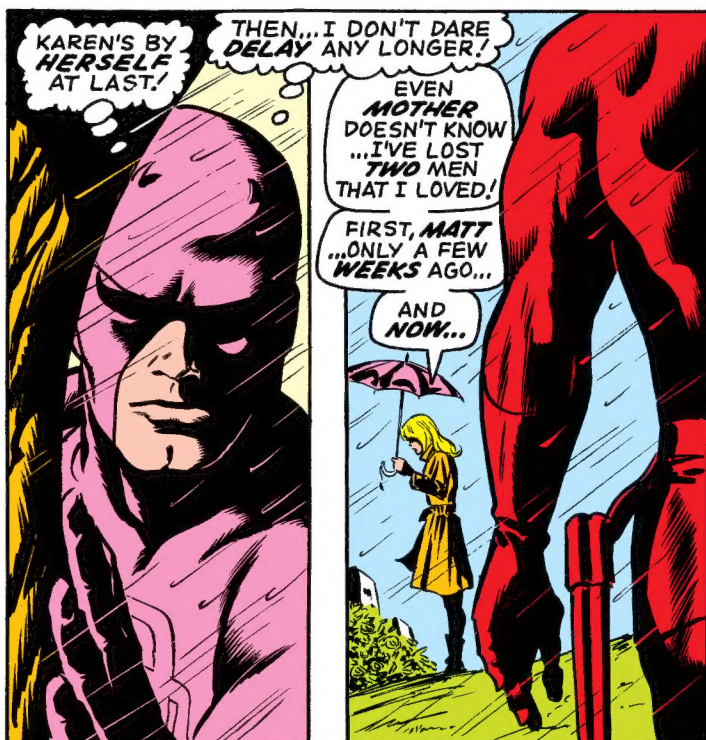
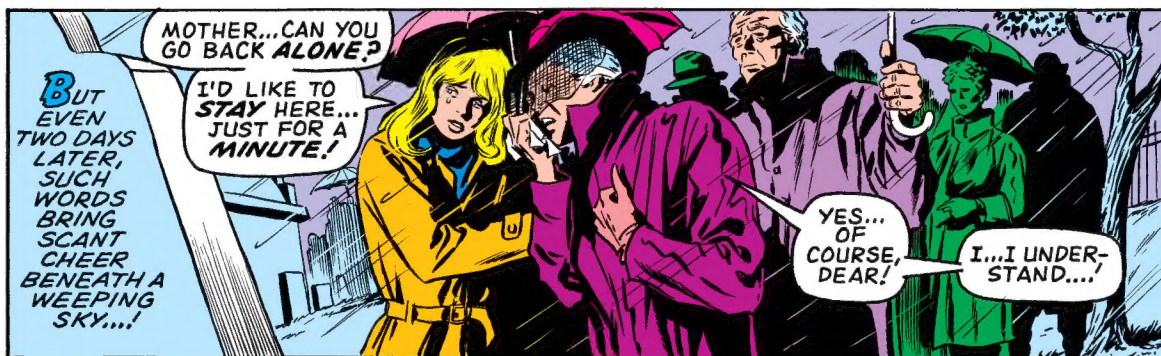
A **GOVERNMENT AGENT**, OF COURSE!

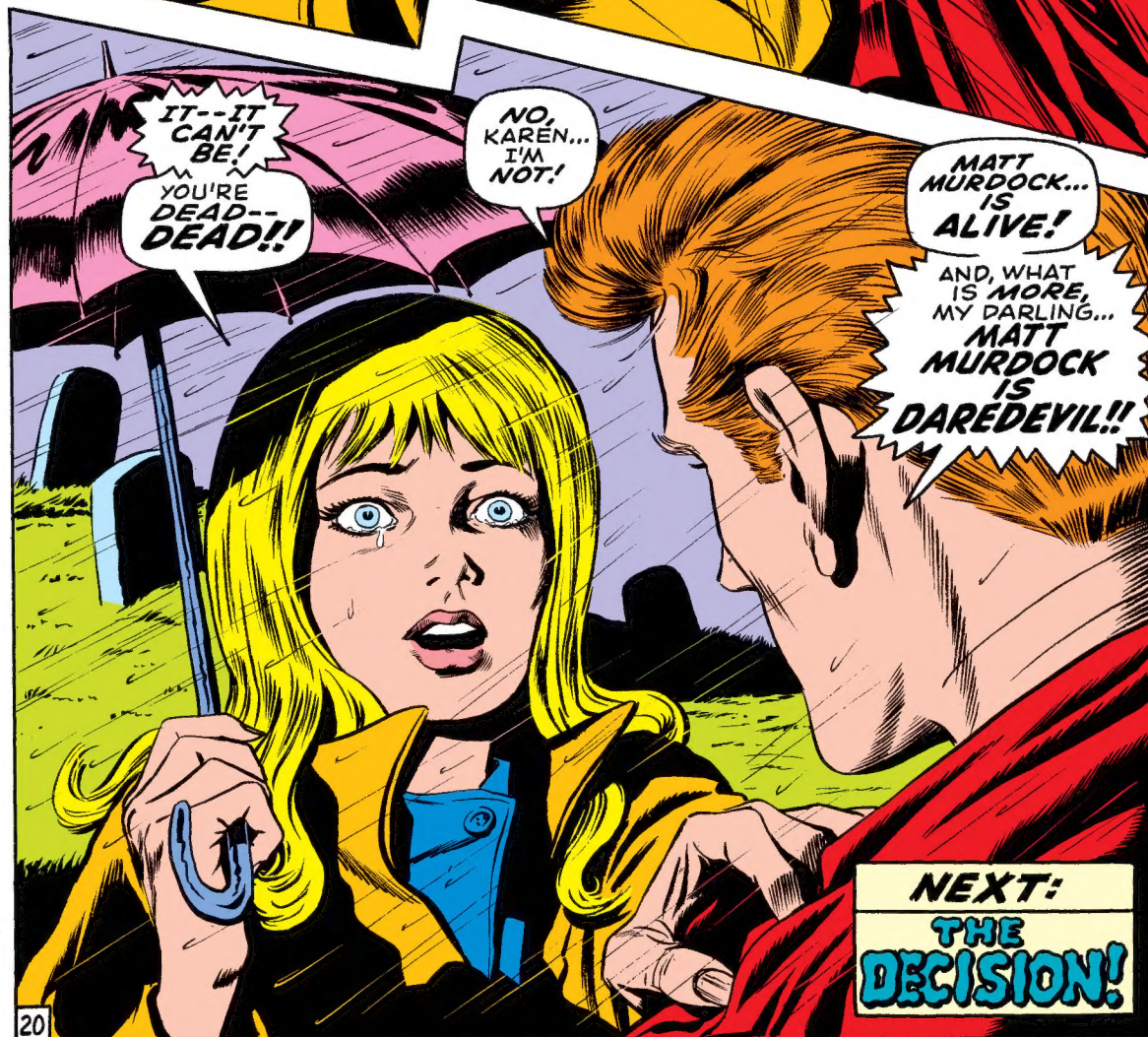
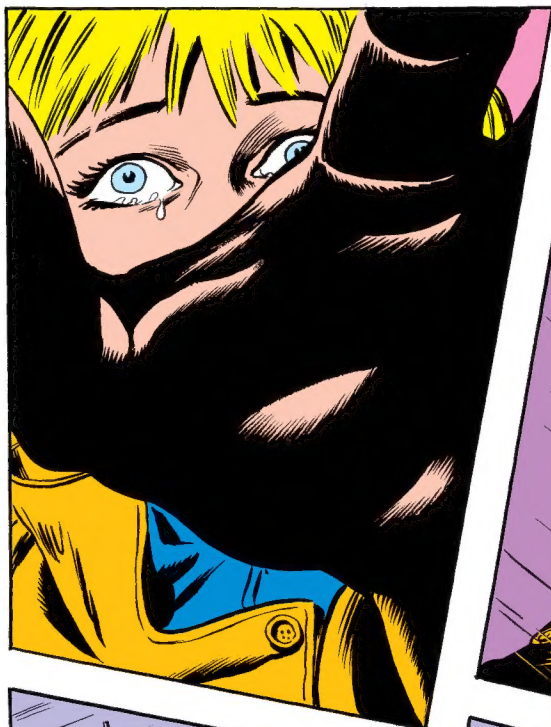
WE **KNEW** HE WAS EXPERIMENTING AGAIN--AND I WAS TO PROTECT HIM SECRETLY FROM HIS **REAL ENEMIES!**

AND SO I **DID**--FROM ALL BUT **HIMSELF!**

I WISH... IT COULD HAVE BEEN **OTHER-WISE!**

HE WAS A **GREAT MAN**, MISS PAGE!





IT--IT
CAN'T
BE!
YOU'RE
DEAD--
DEAD!!

NO,
KAREN...
I'M
NOT!

MATT
MURDOCK...
IS
ALIVE!

AND, WHAT
IS MORE,
MY DARLING...
MATT
MURDOCK
IS
DAREDEVIL!!

NEXT:
THE
DECISION!